details in respect of thermal power projects set up in the joint/private sector during the last three years are given below:

Name of the Project/Capacity		Date of Commissioning	Name of the party
1 Trombay Combined Cycle Gas Turbine Station (180 MW) (120 MW GT+60 MW ST)			M/s. Tata Electric Company, Bombay.
Gas Turbine		29-7-1993	
Steam Turbine (ST)		09-12-1994	
2 Dahanu Thermal Power Station (500MW) (2×250 MW)	Unit-1	6-1-1995	M/s Bombay Suburban Electricity Supply Company, Bombay,
	Unit-2	29-3-1995	

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir, The insta llation of the above station has increased the availability of power for the benefit of the people of Maharashtra by 680 MW.

(e) and (f). No thermal power project is expected to be commissioned during the year 1995-96 under the joint/private sector, as the gestation period required in respect of the on-going thermal power projects is not over.

NAMRUP Thermal Power Project

7883. SHRI BHADRESWAR GOHAIN : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government of Assam has decided to sell out the prestigious Namrup Thermal Power Project to a private company;

(b) whether it is also a fact that some understanding have been arrived at by the Government of Assam with the Reliance Industries; and

(c) if so, whether Government would discourage such a move by the Government of Assam and implement the project on its own?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINIS FRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL): (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Power shortage in Tamil Nadu

7884. SHRI TINDIVANAM G. VENKATRAMAN: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Tamil Nadu is facing power shortage at present;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether any report have been received from Government of Tamil Nadu in this connection; and

(d) if so, what follow-up action has been oaken by Government there on?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATl URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL); (a) During the period 1994-95, the energy requirement of Tamil Nadu was 29570 Million Units against the availability of 28730 Million Units which represents a shortage off 2.8 per cent as against an all

India average shortage of 7.1 per cent during the same period.

(b) The shortage was due to de mand outstripping the availability of energy.

(c) and (d) Government of Tamil Nadu has brought to the notice of Cental Government regarding over drawal of power by APSEB. Andhra Praesh as well as other constituents of the Southern Region have been directed to maximise generation and to draw power strictly according to their respectice shares, and maintain grid discipline. Southern Regional Electricity Board and Powergrid Cor, poration are continuously monitoring implementation of the directions and aret aking approprite remedial mea- sures.

Rationalisation of Power Tariff

7885. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN. Will the Minister of POWER be pleas-ed to state:

(a) whether World Bank has ex pressed concern over irrational tariff and huge transmission losses and if so, the details of observations made land the reaction of Government the reto;

(b) what is the status of the proposal for setting up National Energy Board and since when it is pending;

(c) the specific steps proposed to reduce subsidies and make State Electricity Boards function of commercial basis; and

(d) what is the total quantum of power subsidy for agriculture at present, State-wise, and the steps proposed to phase *out* such subsidy within la stipulated timeframe?

THE MINISTER OP STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATED): (a) World Bank has been suggesting, from time to time, vari- ous measures to improve the financial health of the power sector which, inter-alia, includes rationiali-sation of tariff structure of State Electricity Boards, reduction in transmis-sion and distribution losses etc for seeking assistance from World Bank. The Central Government has been concerned about it and the same has also been discussed in various fora including the State Power Ministers' Conference.

(b) There is no proposal to set up a National Energy Board.

(c) A number of measures have been initiated to improve the financial viability of the SEBs land to reduce the subsidy. These, inter-alia, include signing and monitoring of Operational and Financial Action Plan (OFAP) by Power Finance Corporation (PFC), rationalisation of tariff, regular payment of rural electrification subsidy by the State Governments, improvement in Plant Load Factor, reduction in T&D losses, conversion of State Government loans into equity etc Further, some State Governments such as Orissa, have proposed Electricity Reform Bill, which, inter-alia, is meant for setting up of a Regulatory Commission and separate corporation for generation, transmission and distribution.

(d) Subsidy for power supplied to the Agricultural Sector, State-wise for the year 1993-94 is given at Annexure. Steps proposed to phase out subsidy are indicated at (c) above.

Mobilisation of resources *for* Kayamku-lam combined cycle project

7886. SHRI M. A. BABY; Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry of Power/NTPC delegation has undertaken foreign visit to mobilise resources for Kayakulam Combined Cycle Project;